

May 31, 1999

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Dr. Jane Henney
Commissioner, US FDA
5600 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1471
Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Dr. Henney;

Having had members of our family hospitalized, and then suffering staph complications, my wife and I feel strongly about the very real possibility that our life-saving antibiotics may be becoming invalid because of over-use of those drugs. We believe that this is so because of over-prescription for human beings and their increasing use in agriculture.

We know that you are a dedicated, hard working public servant with taxing responsibilities in the area of public health. We urge you work toward the restriction of antibiotic use in animal feed and treatment. It is our understanding that farmers use more than 40% of all antibiotics used in the United States. Then, our medical community must be educated in a more prudent use as well.

Thank you for consideration of our viewpoint. It is an issue of most importance to us as we have dealt so recently with the problem of antibiotic resistant bacteria.

Sincerely,

Harold & Beverly Tarpley

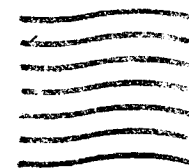
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Mr. Harold Tarpley
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